(CAPT. SATISH SHARMA): (a) to (c) The fields are proposed to be developed under production sharing arrangements between the contractor and the Government and in accordance with established international practices. Some apprehensions in this regard had been voiced by the employees of ONGC. Discussions have been held by the management with the employees to explain the rationale to them.

(d) All required precautions will be taken to ensure that the security interests of the country are safeguarded while undertaking optimal development of these fields to meet the national requirement of hydrocarbon resources.

Project for LPG at USAR in Maharashtra

353. SHRI SURESH KALMADI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have formally approved the establishment of a Rs. 300 crore project to manufacture liquified petroleum gas ;it USAR in Maharashtra;

(b) if so, by when the project is likely to be implemented; and

(c) what will be the capacity of the project to manufacture LPG per year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH SHARMA): (a) to (c) The Gas Authority of India Limited's proposal for setting up a plant at USAR for the extraction of Liquified Petroleum Gas is awaiting the approval of the Government.

Construction Activity of O.N.G.C. in Bombay High

354. SHRI SURESH KALMADI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Oil and Natural Gas Commission has embarked on major construction activities in the Bombay High region to increase production of gas and oil; and

(b) if so, what is the estimated cost involved and the details of increase of gas and oil contemplated?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH SHARMA): (a) to (b) Yes, Sir. These include a number of oil/gas field development and pipeline projects which are expected to cost about Rs. 16,620 crores. The crude oil and gas production is expected to increase from the year 1994-95: As against the estimated production of 15.16 million tonnes of crude oil and about 13500 million cubic metres of natural gas during 1993-94, the production from the Western Offshore during 1996-97 is expected to reach a level of 24.549 million tonnes of crude oil and 17,704 million cubic metres of gas.

एच०बी०जे० पाइपलाइन के माध्यम से प्रवाहित होने वाली गैस की मात्रा को दुगुनी करने की योजना

355. **श्री कैलाश नारायण सारंग:** क्या पेट्रोलियम गैस मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या सरकार आठवीं पंचवर्षीय योजना के दौरान हजीरा-बीजापुर-जगदीशपुर पाइपलाइन में प्रवाहित होने वाली गैस की मात्रा को दुगुनी से भी अधिक करने की योजना बना रही है;

(ख) क्या यह सच है कि मध्य प्रदेश में विद्युत संयंत्रों और अन्य परियोजनाओं की स्थापना करने के लिये अतिरिक्त गैस उपलब्ध कराने का आश्वासन दिया गया था; और

(ग) यदि हां, तो कब तक और कितनी मात्रा में मध्य प्रदेश को गैस उपलब्ध करायी जाएगी?

पेट्रोलियम और प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री (कैप्टन सतीश शर्मा) : (क) हजीरा-बिजापुर-जगदीशपुर गैस पाइपलाइन का क्षमता विस्तार संबंधी प्रस्ताव सरकार के अनुमोदनाधीन है।

(ख) जी, नहीं।

(ग) प्रश्न नहीं उठता।